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## **JACK ANDERSON**

**Peace Corps in Peril?** I've already reported on the backstage controversy over nomination of a onetime Army intelligence officer, Thomas Pauken, to head the Peace Corps' parent agency, Action. Now the furor is out in the open.

A quick survey of Peace Corps employees in Washington by the employee union turned up many accounts of volunteers overseas being falsely — but sometimes effectively — accused as spies. Former Peace Corps counsel William Josephson told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that if Pauken is confirmed, "for the first time the United States will have acted to lend credence to the false charges that the Peace Corps is an arm of U.S. intelligence agents."

Pauken himself tried to downplay his intelligence background in Vietnam, but an efficiency evaluation report described him as "a team chief of an intelligence collection team engaged in covert intelligence operations... in direct support of the counter-insurgency effort."